



Langley Hill Coastal Radar

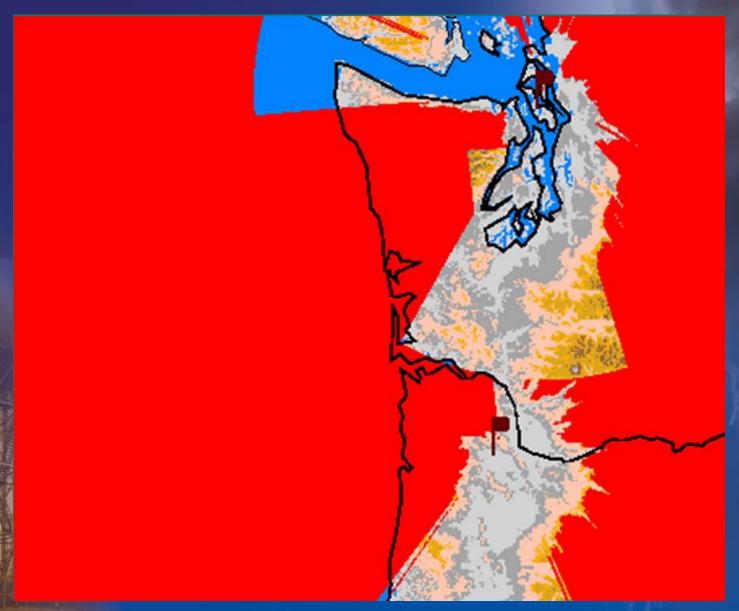
Ted Buehner
Warning Coordination Meteorologist
National Weather Service - Seattle/Tacoma

2012 Pacific NW Weather Workshop



The Challenge







Grassroots Effort





Cliff Mass



Senator Maria Cantwell



- Appropriated Congressional Funding
- Total \$9 Million



The Senator During a TV Interview at NWS Seattle





Copalis Beach

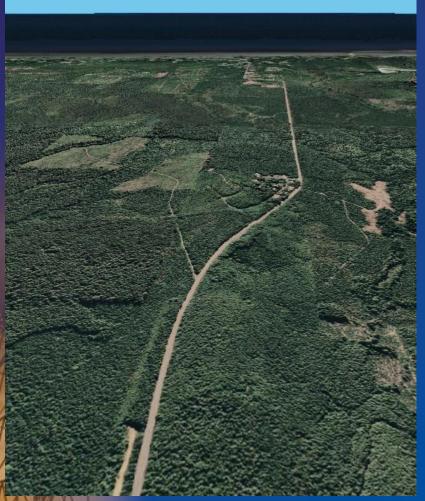


Image Courtesy of: Dr. Dieter Zube Kirkland, WA 98034 Affiliate Assistant Professor, University of Washington Langley Hill

Before

After





Langley Hill Coastal Radar



- Construction
 - Began in March
 - Testing began in July
 - Data flow test in early Sept
- Dual-Polarization
 - Installation Sept 12-23
 - Testing into the week of Sept 26th
 - Week of Sept 26th
 - Became operational
 - Dedication Ceremony on Sept 29th with Senator Cantwell





Dedication Ceremony









NWS Director Jack Hayes and Congressman Norm Dicks



Dedication Ceremony





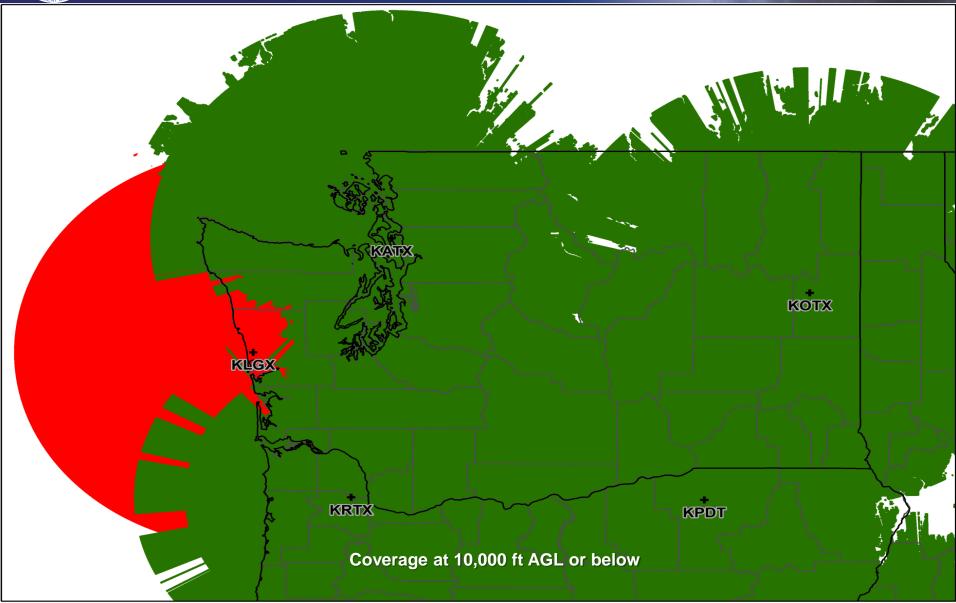


Dedication Ceremony





Washington Doppler Weather Radar Coverage Langley Hill Radar Fills the Coastal Gap





Coastal Radar Coverage







What the Coastal Radar Will Do:



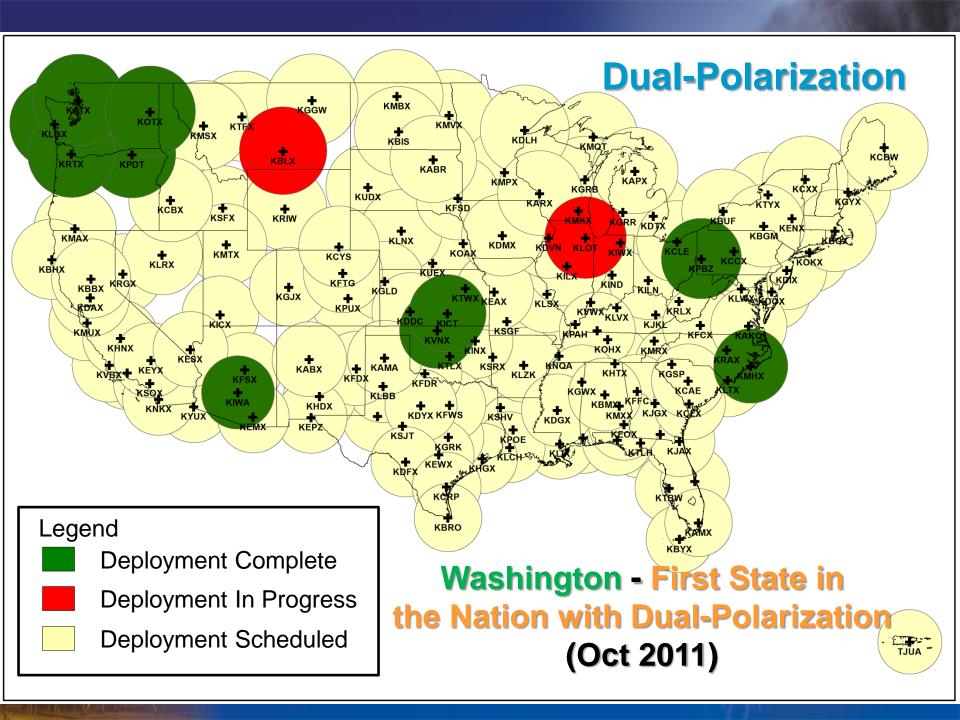
- Improve observation of weather systems
- Fine tune wind and precipitation forecasts (zero to 6 hours lead)
- Improve estimates of rainfall
- Help better identify snow level and its evolution
- Improve forecasts of short-fused severe weather
- Over time, improve understanding of weather along the coast

Elevation of the center of the radar beam increases with distance from the radar (tilt + earth curvature).



For example, the height of the lowest elevation slice (0.5 degree) is about 5,500 ft AGL (above ground level) at 60 nm (nautical miles) from the radar, while at 120 nm the beam height is about 15,000 ft AGL.









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Questions ??

